

THE GATEWAY

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FIGHTING WORLD HUNGER Andrew Thompson of Engineers Without Borders takes another hit from one of many passersby. The group raised \$110 to combat world hunger during their one-day beating event with donations ranging from 25 cents to \$20 dollars.

University presidents petition for more funding

ANTONIO ANGHIELONE
News Writer

Presidents of Alberta's four universities are pushing for \$270 million from the Government of Alberta in order to repair the cracks in the province's postsecondary education system.

According to the presidents of the University of Lethbridge, Athabasca University, the University of Calgary and the University of Alberta, the system is not funded properly and is currently unsustainable.

The group is arguing that the \$270 million, including \$160 million to close the current gap, would place Alberta in a position of leadership in Canada.

PLEASE SEE PRESIDENTS • PAGE 2

National debate tournament at U of A survives Jetsgo collapse

HANNA NASH
News Writer

Jetsgo's collapse nearly cut attendance by a third, but the national debating tournament at the U of A this weekend went off without a hitch, according to organizers.

The collapse of Jetsgo last week meant that some debating teams couldn't afford new plane tickets to fly to Edmonton for the Canadian University Society for Intercollegiate Debate (CUSID) national tournament. But 49 teams from across Canada made it to the University for the national debate hosted by the U of A Debate Society. Only five debate teams were prevented from attending, said U of A Debate Society President Sharon Ohayon.

"Most of the teams that were affected were able to just re-book their

flights, but teams like the one from Cape Breton just couldn't afford to re-book," she said.

"Most of the teams that were affected were able to just re-book their flights, but teams like the one from Cape Breton just couldn't afford to re-book."

SHARON OHAYON,
U OF A DEBATE SOCIETY PRESIDENT

Ohayon said that the debate tournament was the largest ever held in Western Canada. She added that some teams didn't bother booking new

flights due to the tough competition of the large event.

"The few teams that didn't bother to re-book their flights did so because they didn't think that they would be as competitive as the other teams. So they didn't actually affect the tournament that much," explained Ohayon.

After three days of heady debate on topics as diverse as the elimination of hate-speech laws in Canada and the ability of CanWest, a Canadian media giant, to edit news wire reports, the tournament was won by U of A alumnus Rahool Garwal and Michael Kotery representing the University of Toronto.

U of A students could not partake in the tournament. According to CUSID regulations, members of the host school are not allowed to participate in the actual debates.

PLEASE SEE DEBATE • PAGE 5

Nude photo causes outcry

U of C's student newspaper suspends editors over racy photo

COSANNA PRESTON
Senior News Editor

Two editors of the *Gauntlet*, a student newspaper at the University of Calgary, were suspended without pay last Monday after publishing a nude photo of a stripper in early March.

The photograph, which was taken at the University of Calgary Students' Union Sexual Health, Awareness show, depicted the full-frontal nudity of a woman wearing a chain-mail bikini.

The accompanying article focused on the women parading through the Maclewan Student Centre's food court in overly revealing attire prior to the show. In a response published in the *Gauntlet* from the News Editor Dale Miller, one of suspended, he argued that the photo properly depicted the event.

"I didn't try and shock you by allowing these women to walk around naked, the SU did. I merely reported it, and brought the controversy to the larger student population."

DALE MILLER,
NEWS EDITOR, THE GAUNTLET

"The performers were hired by the SU to put on the show, they chose their own outfits and performed in a public environment, in front of both media and the University population," said Miller.

"I didn't try and shock you by allowing these women to walk around naked, the SU did. I merely reported it, and brought the controversy to the larger student population."

PLEASE SEE GAUNTLET • PAGE 5

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Bad news Bears

The Golden Bears basketball team lost both its games at the national championship in Halifax.

SPORTS, PAGE 11



Wet in the world?

Take five musicians, seven days and a half-cow/half-whale and you have yourself a new Edmonton supergroup.

A&E, PAGE 14

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colophon

The Gateway is created using Macintosh computers, Union Powerlock 10000 halftone scanner, and a Nikon Super Cool Scan optical film scanner. Adobe InDesign is used for layout. Adobe Illustrator is used for vector images, while Adobe Photoshop is used for raster images. Adobe Acrobat is used to convert PDF files which are burned directly to plates to be mounted on the printing press. Text is set in a variety of sizes, styles, and weights of **Futura**, **Kayla**, **Joanna**, and **Arima**. The **Manrobor** is the Gateway's poster page. The Gateway's games of choice are **The Legend of Zelda**, **The King of the Hill**, **Cap and D&D**. Comics **Gateway** editors are currently reading: **Nite Comics** and **The Ultimates**.

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University presidents concerned about access, quality

PRESIDENTS • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Inadequate funding is presently diminishing the quality of university programs, argued U of A Provost Dr Carl Amrhein.

"In about 1982/83 we received ten dollars for every dollar of tuition. This year we'll receive about \$2.18 from the government for every dollar of tuition," he said.

"Over the years we have had a persistent level of funding that is sixth or seventh out of ten in Canada. It is a level of funding that even with the tuition [hikes] doesn't allow us to maintain the quality of programs that we have historically. It leaves us with a persistent core budget deficit," he said.

The presidents met with the government on 22 February, and focused on increasing the access, affordability and quality of education for Albertans.

"This is all about the quality of education the students are able to access," said Dominique Abrioux, president of Athabasca University.

"The money has to do with investing in quality education. Whether it's faculty, whether it's support services, whether it's in facilities, whether it's in technology—ultimately it's going to impact the quality of learning and most likely the ability of students to interact with academics," she argued.

According to Amrhein, while it is hard to predict whether the upcoming budget will reflect the concerns of the four universities, he is optimistic that the message will be clear.

"By being able to present the united front to the government we're able to have a single, crisp, clear message and, quite frankly, it makes it easier for government to help us," said Amrhein.

University of Lethbridge President Bill Cade explained that if he requested money isn't granted, the postsecondary education system in Alberta will suffer, and Albertans will be less able to take advantage of it.

"I think one result will be that there will be less access," said Cade.

"If the money is not provided, you're going to see a closing down of spaces and a limiting of access to university by the campuses themselves."

While there is no way to know now how much funding universities will receive before the budget is released in April, the government understands that the postsecondary system needs more money, said Cameron Traynor, a communications officer for the Ministry of Advanced Education.

"Minister Hancock has said on a number of occasions that more fund-

ing is needed," he said.

"[But] it's not just about spending money, that the system is underfunded and we need to spend more. It's about developing new and innovative approaches to postsecondary education."

Traynor said that the premier has announced many initiatives for postsecondary education for this year, including increasing student spaces in universities, as well as the Access to the Future Act, which would provide a \$3 billion endowment for postsecondary and would increase scholarships by boosting the Heritage Fund.

"We have to wait and see what will come with the budget next month. Certainly the government has already made some solid commitments for long-term increased funding for post-secondary education," Traynor said.

CAMPUS
CRIME BEATCompiled by Caitlin Cravshaw
(caitlin@gatewayuab.ca)BUT MY PANTS WERE CHAFFING ME,
OFFICER

On Sunday night, 20 March, 5:0 received a phone call from a HUB Mall resident just before 1am. The resident claimed that a male had followed her into the laun-

dry area and performed his version of a Levi's commercial (stripped down to his underwear while washing his only pair of jeans). The non-affiliated male attempted to hide his identity by wearing sunglasses and a black toque, but to no avail. When constables arrived and started to question him, they noticed his accent and requested a US criminal records check. The male had warrants from the Orange County Sheriff's Office in southern California. The male was turned over to the EPS, who in turn passed him on to immigration for deportation.

SO MUCH FOR LAYING LOW

Constables observed an intoxicated male on the south side of HUB Mall at 12:47pm on Saturday, 19 March. The male was uncooperative and uttered threats toward the 5-0 constables, who in turn arrested him for public intoxication and transported him back to 5-0 headquarters. He was found to have an extensive criminal history including sex offenses, and was issued a summons for public intoxication. He was then trespassed and escorted off campus.

MUCHADO ABOUT PIZZA

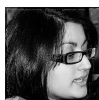
Campus 5-0 received several calls advising of a disturbance at Avenue Pizza on 19 March. Constables arrived and observed several males fighting in the parking lot. EPS was contacted and 5-0 arrested two males prior to the arrival of the police.

Investigations revealed that a waitress was struck in the face as the fight broke out inside the bar. The matter was turned over to the EPS for further investigation. No further details were known as of press time.

STREETERS

Last week, airline company Jetso declared bankruptcy, rendering purchased plane tickets unusable.

Since the federal government taxes plane tickets, should they reimburse these Jetso customers?

Reem Sheikh
Science IIJayme Tchir
Science IIIPaul Zeligler
Arts IIIArthur Lee
Business II


Yeah, I think they should, because it's not fair to pay the money for cancelled flights. At least [they should] get a credit.

I know a couple of friends who are going to Toronto, and they bought tickets and lost \$200. I don't know if it is [the government's] responsibility at all, but I think someone should be responsible for it.

No, [they shouldn't], because the government didn't start Jetso; they didn't make any promises about Jetso. People could have taken Air Canada. They'd have had a surefire mechanism of actually getting there, and it's subsidized by the government.

I totally think so. I don't think it's their fault that they got screwed over by a company that didn't give any news that they were going to go under. It would definitely be good of the government to give money back to people who lost [the use of] their tickets.

Compiled and photographed by Alexander Witt and James Storrie



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COURTESY OF DR PHILIP CURRIE

DINO-MITE! Dr Philip Currie will become the U of A's first professor to focus specifically on dinosaur education.

World-renowned paleontologist 'saurs' into the University of Alberta

U of A recruits Tyrell Museum curator to create new dino program

ALEXANDER WITT
News Writer

A world-renowned dinosaur expert will be joining the University of Alberta's biological sciences department this fall.

Dr Philip Currie currently collects and researches dinosaurs in his role as a curator at the Royal Tyrell Museum of Paleontology in Drumheller, Alberta.

Having already worked on excavations that uncovered evidence supporting the dinosaur-bird connection theory, which suggests that birds have evolved from dinosaurs, Currie is known as an authority on feathered dinosaurs.

While there has never been a professorship at the U of A specifically focused on the study of dinosaurs, the University has collected dinosaur specimens for a long time. This newly established position is an exciting opportunity for Currie.

"The U of A is a place that is very progressive in its thinking about developing programs," says Currie.

"Now we have a chance to take [the study of dinosaurs] much further than it's ever been taken before."

According to the paleontologist, Currie's own dinosaur education began a long time ago.

"My interest ever since I was a kid was in dinosaurs," he says.

However, being born and raised in Ontario, Currie always hoped to end up in Alberta.

"Alberta was kind of my game plan—to move out west and come here, simply because the dinosaurs are here. There are none in Ontario," says Currie.

But he knew that in order to study the ancient creatures that had captivated him as a child, he'd need to

fight tooth and nail to get a coveted academic position. But he notes that he pursued this dream with some confidence.

"If you know what you really want to do, then you can do it," he says.

And Currie's philosophy seems to have been successful. The paleontologist was hired by the Provincial Museum of Alberta as a curator of earth sciences and paleontology in the study of reptile fossils in Madagascar and Africa even before he'd finished his PhD. He has worked with the Royal Tyrell Museum since its inception in 1985.

"Now we have a chance to take [the study of dinosaurs] much further than it's ever been taken before."

**DR PHILIP CURRIE,
CURATOR, ROYAL TYRELL MUSEUM
INCOMING U OF A PROFESSOR**

As the curator of dinosaurs at the Royal Tyrell Museum, an important part of his work has been educating the public about dinosaurs, a demand which increased significantly after *Jurassic Park*.

"With the release of *Jurassic Park*, [public interest] has increased and increased and increased," he says, noting that public perception of dinosaurs had previously been stuck in the 1930s.

"[*Jurassic Park*] made me realize that Hollywood has a huge impact on public education," he said.

But Currie's new position at the U of A will require a more detailed

approach to education. Beyond simply educating the public, the new position will allow Currie to supervise the education of dinosaur specialists of the future.

Although Currie has been a professor at the University of Calgary and has spoken at countless institutions worldwide, so far he has only worked on graduate committees.

"[The U of A position will] put me in more direct involvement with graduate students," he notes.

In addition to his high-profile positions in Alberta, the McGill PhD graduate has produced studies which have proliferated across the globe, and he has excavated with his paleobotanist wife Eva in Canada, China, Mongolia, and recently Argentina.

Currie is also the author of hundreds of articles and ten dinosaur-related books—including the *Encyclopedia of Dinosaurs*, which he co-edited with Kevin Padian, the advisor of the Padian Lab at Berkeley University which focuses on vertebrate evolution.

He's even named and co-named dinosaurs that include *Callovosaurus* ("from the mid-Jurassic period," 210 to 270 million years ago) and *Monolophosaurus* ("single-crested lizard").

As for the projects he'll be conducting at the U of A, Currie still has decisions to make, though he has some ideas in mind.

"I hope to develop a field course ... collecting good field data is an important aspect of paleontology and not everyone gets to do that," he says.

And Currie notes he will not have to travel very far to do this, either.

"Alberta is incredibly rich in 'dinosaur' material. ... There are actually dinosaurs right within the city of Edmonton."

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SU, Tobacco Reduction Project raise funds to build school in Africa

DANIEL KASZOR
Production Editor

In a gala event last Saturday, the Students' Union and the Tobacco Reduction Project attempted to raise funds to build a school in Africa while broadening the artistic horizons of U of A students.

Offering a variety of student art, from metal work to dance, most of which was up for auction, the evening, entitled "From the Ground Up," tried to put an inventive spin on charity fundraising.

"From the Ground Up" was a night of student art to raise funds for a primary school in Sierra Leone," explained event coordinator and SU Community Liaison Officer Ariana Barer.

"The event was basically the combined effort of lots of students to raise money for a good cause."

The benefactor of the evening was the Free the Children Network (FTC), a charity based out of Toronto.

The FTC, which was founded in 1996, provides aid to underprivileged children worldwide, including medical aid and funding to construct schools.

The proceeds from the gala specifically went to support the charity's Sierra Leone school-building initiatives.

"Sierra Leone had eleven years of civil war," said Althea Wilson, International Projects Assistant for the FTC.

"The aim of the project is to make sure that children who were forced to be soldiers, who were displaced and lost families have access to education."

Sierra Leone was placed last in the United Nations quality of life rankings



DANCING FOR KIDS Orchestra dance group performs at "From the Ground Up."

and there are estimates that upwards of 70 per cent of children in the country are not receiving any formal education. With that in mind, the FTC wants to help rebuild Sierra Leone's infrastructure by creating new schools.

Barer was quick to point out why the SU chose the Sierra Leone project and the FTC specifically.

"We wanted to show that education is important to students and we are willing to help others globally starting at the primary level. The FTC also has an institutional structure where only three per cent of funds go to administrative overhead and the other 97 per cent go to the actual cause," she said.

"Marc Kielburger, the FTC's executive director, was the first speaker in the Revolutionary Speakers Series this year; he gave a fabulous presentation and we were very impressed with their organization."

The SU's Tobacco Reduction Project,

a program designed to make students consider the benefits of quitting smoking, also took part in the fundraiser.

"When people quit smoking they find that they have a lot of free time and nothing to with their hands.

The tobacco reduction theme for this event is, "You have better things to do." The gala showed art, metal work, dancing, and improvisation in addition to highlighting charity work," said Michelle Kelly, director of the project.

"There are better things to get involved in besides smoking."

Overall, Barer is happy not only with how the event shaped up, but with how supportive students are with charity events in general.

"It's refreshing to look around the University and to see how many charity events are going on. It's nice that there are enough student supporters who are willing to go out and make these events happen."

New student group heading to Central America to volunteer

NATALIE CLIMENIAGA
News Writer

A new campus group is gathering needed supplies to bring to struggling communities in Costa Rica and the Dominican Republic this summer.

The International Student Volunteers of the University of Alberta (ISVUA) was formed this January on the U of A campus. The group is a branch of the International Student Volunteers (ISV), a North American non-profit group whose members travel to different regions of the world for community development and conservation volunteer work.

This week, the ISVUA is holding a fundraising drive to round up supplies to take with them on their journeys this summer.

"We're going to accept bags of clothing or shoes [and] useful items to take down to the families and children," explained Myka Jones, an ISVUA volunteer.

Jones and other volunteers will be accepting items from 22 to 24 March in SU/B, and on 23 March in Lister Centre. However, students without items to donate can help in other ways, said Jones.

"We're going to have a chocolate or jelly bean raffle, so whoever's donating gets to enter that for free ... and if you're not donating you can just purchase a ticket for 50 cents," Jones said.

"Proceeds will go towards buying toothbrushes and things like that—useful articles to take [to Costa Rica and the Dominican Republic] besides clothing and shoes," Jones added.

Club Co-President Melissa Paquette, who went with ISV to the Dominican

Republic last summer, remembers the need she encountered and hopes students will support the drive.

"A lot of the kids didn't have clothes or didn't have very much, so anything really helps," Paquette said.

There are a total of 15 U of A students going on ISV summer programs this year, ten of whom are going to Costa Rica or the Dominican Republic.

"Students have to bring one suitcase of donations if they are coming on a community development project," Paquette explained.

"Anybody who is with ISV will be asked if they want some of our donations for that. If we get too much we're going to get it sent down separately," Paquette said.

Students must pay their own way, but according to Paquette the cost is well worth it.

"You're paying to go on it but it's an amazing opportunity. It was the best month of my life—it was just incredible," Paquette said.

The contributions made by ISV students to struggling communities are numerous.

"There's teaching English, there's just getting involved with kids in the community, there's house-building projects and just actually helping out with the day-to-day activities of the families there," Jones explained.

"And then there's the conservation work, so that could be building new houses or building attractions to attract tourism and still provide for the economy so it's not a detriment to their communities," she added.

The ISV will also be running conservation efforts in the USA, Australia and New Zealand this summer.

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DEBATEIT Michael Kotery and his partner from U of T won the national meet.

Hosting national debate 'an honour': debate club president

DEBATE • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"When you host the national championships it's basically an honour just to be able to host it. We had the entire debate society mobilized to help with the event, and the educating," explained Ohayon.

"What's nice is that if a person does well in the judging, he or she gets to judge the final round. [There were] four U of A debaters in the final round judging; [they were] half of the panel."

The U of A Debate Society participates in weekly debates between its members as well as tournaments in Western Canada during the middle of each semester. Additionally, the

U of A annually debates in international events.

This past December, the U of A participated in the World University Debating Championships in Malaysia, and produced one U of A team that advanced to the top 32 among the 312 teams that were present.

"We were competing against the likes of Harvard, Oxford, and Cambridge. This was the second time ever in the U of A's history that we've had a team make it to the knock-out round," said Ohayon.

The U of A will be sending members of its debate society to the national debate tournament next year in Ottawa at Carleton University.

GAUNTLET • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

And it is this defense that encouraged Greg Clayton, vice-president (operations and finance) and the SU representative on the Gauntlet's Board of Directors (BoD) to request an emergency meeting of the board. According to Clayton, the dancers who were participating in the fashion show were asked to model "extreme lifestyle" attire. During the first of four scheduled shows, Clayton said the dancers appeared unexpectedly dressed in the chain-mail bikinis depicted in the photo. The SU was unaware of this clothing choice and ensured that more appropriate items were worn for subsequent performances.

"I have an issue saying that [the photo] accurately reported the event. There were over 400 pictures taken at the event and this was the one that showed stuff like this," argued Clayton.

"They went out of their way to choose this picture because it was the only one they had like this and I honestly think [Miller] is trying to off-load this back onto the SU," he added, referring to a statement published by Miller which argued that he covered the event in the same way it was conducted.

The public outcry that erupted from the publishing ranged from the Students' Union calling the photo in "poor taste," to the vice-president (external relations) of the University calling it "gratuitous, graphic and entirely unacceptable." Additionally, the photographed exotic dancer, who goes by Honey Huston and happens to be a U of C student, has demanded that the Gauntlet be shut down.

The BoD of the Gauntlet suspended Ben Li, the editor-in-chief (EIC) and Dale Miller, the news editor, citing a

failure to "meaningfully address the controversy of [the] event" through the 230-word article that accompanied the photograph, and negligence in timely responses to public outcry. However, Jeff Kubik, one of two staff representatives on the BoD and the BoD spokesperson, stressed that the action taken was not a result of public pressure but rather a statement to the Gauntlet staff about the responsibility that accompanies freedom of expression.

"This is not a response to external pressure. We will not apologize for the photograph."

JEFF KUBIK,
GAUNTLET BOARD SPOKESPERSON

"The article that ran with [the photo] is inappropriate. It does not provide the context that it required."

— The article allowed the picture to speak for it which it should never have done," said Kubik.

"This is not a response to external pressure. We will not apologize for the photograph. This is a question of holding ourselves accountable to the standards that we believe we can reach as a paper."

However, Li argued that the photo would not have run had the article not been sufficient.

"We decided to run it knowing that there would be some controversy coming out of it... but it was not our intent to offend. It was our intent to show what happened in the event," he said, expressing shock and disdain over the suspension, which he said

was completely unexpected.

Li argued that the photo provided a necessary image for readers who were trying to understand what the women were wearing when they strolled through the food court prior to their first performance.

But Clayton added that the women, who were asked to cover up after their appearance in the food court, were wearing less revealing clothing in the food court than at their later-photographed performance. He also noted that the audience at the performance was warned prior to entry of the sexual nature of the event and only those above 18 years of age were granted entrance. The free newspaper, he argued, is available to all ages.

"There was no warning on the front of the paper that said, 'If you might be offended by this, don't look at page five,'" said Clayton.

"I don't think the Gauntlet did anything illegal but I certainly don't think it was in the best interests of students or in the paper. I think they could have gotten their point across in a less offensive manner."

According to Gauntlet bylaws, the BoD is required to review the editors' suspensions one week after the initial decision. Li intends to appeal the decision at this meeting and while no indication was given from Kubik that the decision would be overturned, he said that the Gauntlet would not refrain from controversy in the future.

"Nude images will run again, as they have in past issues of the Gauntlet... We will run articles that push the boundaries and will offer our student volunteers and editors an opportunity to express themselves freely," he said.

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OPINION

opinion@gatewayualberta.ca • tuesday, 22 march, 2005

Newspaper autonomy has to be respected

EACH YEAR AROUND Valentine's Day, the Gateway runs its rather risqué Purity Test accompanied by a racy cover photo. Many people look forward to the issue, many people despise it, but, as we are an autonomous newspaper, very few question our right to publish it.

In their 3 March issue, the University of Calgary's autonomous student newspaper, the *Gauntlet*, published a photograph of a stripper who was naked above and below the waist on page five of their news section. The picture ran with a story on an event related to the U of C's Students' Union (UCSU) Sexual Awareness Week, in which models, whom the SU had hired for a fashion show, walked through the food court of the U of C equivalent of SUB scantily dressed.

As soon as the picture was published, all hell broke loose: the *Gauntlet* was condemned by several governing bodies on campus, copies of the paper were stolen en masse or vandalized, and the woman whose picture started everything went on record as saying that she wanted the paper shut down.

There is a lot to talk about in context of what happened, but I think two things are most important to point out. First, the attitude the U of C Students' Union and the U of C administration took towards the *Gauntlet* during the entire affair was poor. Second, lazy journalism, which epitomized all of the mainstream news stories written on the stripper fiasco, was disappointing.

When the controversy over the *Gauntlet* photo started, the first response from both the administration and the UCSU was not to air their disappointment—though they did do that later on—but to make noise about repressing the *Gauntlet*. Neither of those bodies had the right nor the power to do so, as the *Gauntlet* is an autonomous organization.

Having a separate and free press is vital to being able to report on the news at all. If a newspaper can't report on certain bodies, or write about certain things for fear of reprisal, then there really isn't any point in calling it a newspaper at all.

This isn't to say that these two bodies should not have voiced their concerns about the paper. Quite the opposite: if they felt that the paper was poorly put together and didn't follow journalistic principles, they should have told everyone about it until their faces turned blue. It's just that they should have made their complaints through the proper channels, and not—as the UCSU did, for instance—imply that they had the power to arbitrarily shut the paper down.

The second major complaint I have about the affair is that mainstream media reports on the story were weak, focusing almost entirely on the *Gauntlet* publishing the picture, and not delving into the fact that it was the UCSU that hired the stripper in the first place. Now, again, this isn't to say that the *Gauntlet* is free from fault, just that the story had multiple aspects to it, and only one angle was portrayed by the stories written about the event. The stories weren't wrong, per se, just one-sided.

Luckily, it seems that the *Gauntlet* will pull through this crisis okay, without the UCSU or anyone else shutting them down. I would hate to think of what would happen if a precedent were set about shutting down student newspapers if someone saw something they didn't like—we would never have a Valentine's issue ever again.

DANIEL KASZOR
Production Editor

Justice works

I SUPPOSE IT'S PREDICTABLE that outrage was the most common reaction to last week's acquittal of the two suspects in the 1985 Air India bombing that killed over 300 people. After all, it's a well-known fact that everyone who's ever been accused of a crime is unquestionably guilty, and that all acquittals are horrifying failures of the justice system. Clearly,

Ripudaman Singh Malik and Ajah Singh Bagri should have been convicted regardless of available evidence. Sure, the evidence against them may have "fallen" markedly short of proving their guilt, in the words of the judge, but really, what sort of excuse is that?

JAKE TROUGHTON
Sports Editor

LETTERS

Gateway opinion section really sucks

I have been reading the Gateway since day one at University, and my usual inner grumblings have finally risen to the surface, mostly because I have some time right now. My beef is with the poorly written, uninspired, and downright boring opinion articles I end up reading twice a week. Now and then, there is something good, so I'm willing to risk a foray into that section. However, the suck-good ratio has been steadily increasing over time, and I think I should say something for the sake of all readers.

Writing styles haven't changed since the days of Chris Boutet, and are now tediously stuck in the "noun preceded by far too many supposedly clever descriptors" phase. The pieces are almost always completely predictable, and show a poor understanding of world issues. The opinions expressed are not even opinions: they're superficial descriptions of current events that lead to foolish conclusions about the action some world leader should take. News flash, diphth: those people are smarter than you. They have considered everything, you have said, and probably a hundred more things.

Also, dear writers, please try to pick a subject that isn't insanely tired and just plain boring. Some recent gems: "Legalizing drugs could solve a lot of our problems" (17 March). Well, hello Captain Obvious; try saying something I haven't heard a thousand times by people I respect more than you. Or, how about the also recent "Sadly, men and women can't just be friends" (30 March). Look at your picture, lady; you are hot. Here is a brilliant insight for you: your 28-pound colleagues aren't having the same troubles. You know why? Because, you poor thing, being physically attractive has made you arrogant—maybe you should appreciate what you have. Or, how about, "You're not really straight" (17 March); well, thank you very much, but yes I am. You, Mr. Author, are not. Your lame attempt to come out doesn't mean anything to anyone. Nowadays, it's perfectly acceptable, regardless of the fact that you feel some need to justify yourself.

I submit that at least 75 per cent of the opinion articles I have read over the last year have been an insult to the intelligence of well-informed people capable of critical thinking. So, my friends at the Gateway, please, for the love of God, turn down the suck.

TRAVIS HOOSE
Engineering III

US drug war affects Canada, too

Regarding Tim Peppin's 17 March column, "Legalizing drugs could solve a lot of our problems": the drug war is in large part a war on marijuana, by far the most popular illicit drug. The experience of the US suggests that punitive marijuana laws have little, if any, deterrent value. The University of Michigan's "Monitoring the Future" study reports that lifetime use of mari-



MICHAEL PATTERSON
Science IV

Jetsgo employees don't deserve blame, Lilwall

Regarding the article by Scott Lilwall, "Jetsgo 'ninjas' have ripped off Canadians" (17 March): you are, for the most part, bang on regarding Jetsgo, with one major mistake. Jetsgo employees were as much victimized in all this as the passengers were. Jetsgo employees were not taking down signs and erasing Jetsgo markings like thieves in the night: they were told to get off the property, and airport authority employees did all the dirty work.

Do not criticize the employees at Jetsgo: this is unfair and an incorrect assessment of many people who were doing their best, and have lost it all. I realize this all makes for great journalistic drama, but please get your facts straight.

TOM HARCOFT
Edmonton, Alberta

Aspartame is bad

In response to your article, "Aspartame not harmful, suggests study" (17 March), you obviously haven't done your homework! The prime study conducted in 1967 by Dr. Harold Waisman, a biochemist at the University of Wisconsin, did aspartame safety tests on infant monkeys on behalf of the Searle company. Of the seven monkeys that were being fed aspartame mixed with milk, one died and five others had grand-mal seizures. This

is even more serious in humans, because monkeys are able to cope with higher levels of methanol than us, and the aspartame was administered in milk, which slows absorption in the gut.

Searle ignored these crucial studies, though they were carried out on behalf of Searle. They also cut out cancerous tumours on other test subjects and only autopsied them at least a year after they had died—by then, the bodies were in an advanced stage of decomposition.

You need to see the film *Sweet Misery—A Poisoned World*. It includes evidence from the people who were actually there at the approval stage of aspartame, such as James Turner, a former FDA investigator, as well as the victims of aspartame poisoning. You will realize, then, that this product is not safe, and should never have been approved by the FDA. Key players like Donald Rumsfeld, and an awful lot of money, fraudulently pushed this toxin through. You can obtain this film from www.nastepublishing.co.uk

Before you go into print and embarrass yourself again, get informed!

KIM DIXON
www.332.org.uk

Letters to the editor should be dropped off at room 3-04 of the Students' Union Building, or e-mailed to opinion@gatewayualberta.ca.

The Gateway reserves the right to edit letters for length and clarity, and to refuse publication of any letter it deems racist, sexist, libelous, or otherwise hateful in nature.

Letters to the editor should be no longer than 350 words, and should include the name, student identification number, program, and year of study of the author, to be considered for publication. Anonymous submissions will not be considered. They make me sad panda.

Only you can make our Council attractive

If they're going to be ineffectual, they might as well look good doing nothing



JAKE
TROUGHTON

Once again, we come to that most exciting, wondrous time of the year, a time when magical fairies make all our dreams come true. That's right: it's election time for Students' Council.

Now sure, voter turnout in the past has tended to belie such a glowing description of the event, and I know that many of you are of the opinion that Council elections aren't "cool" or "sexy" or "glamorous" or "of any importance at all." And hey, maybe you're right. Nonetheless, I implore you: make the effort to at least check out the posters, attend the forums, then get out and vote for whichever candidates you feel are the best.

I cannot stress enough the importance of this. Just remember: regardless of whether you vote, councils are going to be elected, and are going to talk a lot about how much they dislike tuition. But if you don't get out and do your part, those elected councils may not be as pretty as they could be. I don't think any one of us wants to let that happen.

Let's face it: when it comes to electing a councilor who's good at the job, we're looking at a complete crapshoot. For every Steve Smith running for a seat, there are at least 100 inert—the name-of-just-about-any-other-

councilors—though, of course, it takes numerous years to reach that 100 figure—and there's little way to tell the difference until it's too late. We just can't do very much to stem the flow of the useless, annoying or incompetent councilors we've all grown so accustomed to.

Don't let the stereotype of ugly politicians get to you; if you're fortunate enough to be in a faculty that has candidates, there's a good chance that one of them, if not two or three, will be at least somewhat attractive.

There is something we can affect, though, and that's the physical appearance of Council. From what little we see of candidates prior to the election, we have no way of predicting how good a job they'll do, but we do have a strong bias for predicting how good they'll look doing it. Frankly, to have this ability and then sit back and do nothing is downright irresponsible. Keeping ugly people out of the public eye is a serious responsibility.

And there's real hope for the cause, too. Don't let the stereotype of ugly politicians get to you; if you're for-

tunate enough to be in a faculty that has candidates, there's a good chance that one of them, if not two or three, will be at least somewhat attractive. I don't want to name any names, but so far I've only seen posters for one of the candidates seeking to represent me on Council and, well, let's just say I'd cast my ballot for her any day, if you know what I mean. If even some of the other candidates are able to compete with her credentials—and rumour has it that this is indeed the case—I could be in for a tough yet satisfying decision on election day.

If students at this fine institution can be persuaded to elect only the very hottest candidates during general elections—and in the most recent one, with the possible exceptions of the board of governors representative and vice-president (operations), they certainly did just that—surely they should be willing to put the same effort into Council elections. It might even be more important—the Executive is more visible, but councilors are more numerous, so if we fail to elect the best-looking people possible, we'll notice it all too frequently.

The people we elect won't just be the people who pretend to run the Students' Union as it pretends to be important: they're the people who we'll watch pretend to run the Students' Union as it pretends to be important. So make sure to get out and vote, or whenever the bell the election is, and make an informed choice. The fate of our eyeballs depends on it.

Politicians should butt out of euthanasia debate



IRIS
TSE

"This is the private struggle of any family who has to consider euthanasia as an option. But somewhere along the line, the plight of the Schindler-Schiavo family has become a circus freak show, open to judgment from anyone with an Internet connection or basic cable."

Obviously, euthanasia is a bit of a touchy subject. After all, we're talking about consciously making a decision to end a person's life. It is a convoluted topic that raises many moral and religious questions, and has no clear answers. It is a polarizing issue that merits a lot of deep thinking and rational debates. One of the things it isn't, though, is a thumb-wrestling match between politicians who want to further their personal careers.

To those who were holed up in a cave the past few days, let me recap some events for you: Terri Schiavo is a woman who has been in a permanent vegetative state for the past 15 years. She's stuck in a tug-of-war between her husband, Michael Schiavo, who wanted her feeding tube to be removed to allow her to die with dignity, and her parents, Robert and Mary Schindler, who think Terri is responsive to their voices, and cannot bear the thought of ending their daughter's life. Recently, the court granted the doctors to remove her life-sustaining feeding tube, after it was previously removed and reinstated twice.

This is the private struggle of any family who has to consider euthanasia as an option. But somewhere along the line, the plight of the Schindler-Schiavo family has become a circus freak show, open to judgment from anyone with an Internet connection or basic cable. Judgment by religious groups and activist groups, of course,

is nothing new—what's new is the personal interest that the US House of Representatives and the US Senate have taken in this case. Suddenly, every card-carrying Republican who cares about his or her political future cares about Terri Schiavo. Hey, where were you the last seven years, when she was lying in a vegetative state and her family was battling in the courts?

This is no longer a healthy debate between supporters and opponents of euthanasia—this is a race for politicians to jostle for attention on Capitol Hill or a sound bite on CNN. I see this as a selfish debate among Congress members in a frantic attempt to appease the real-states who voted them into office five months ago, rather than a true showing of human compassion. It's about them forcing their ideology on others when the motive behind such action is sorely misplaced.

The second time the feeding tube was removed, back in October 2003, the lower house of Florida actually granted Jeb Bush, Florida's governor and George W.'s brother, permission to reinstate the feeding tube. This was a flagrant disregard for the Schiavos' constitutional rights, as well as their privacy. Thank God Florida's supreme court came to its senses and struck down the ostentatiously named "Terri's law" a couple days later. However, there is a new threat to private rights: Sunday night—at 1am,

just to show you how important this evidently is to these meddling politicians—George W. Bush signed a bill that allowed Terri's parents to ask for a court hearing to decide whether or not to put the tube back in for the third time. The hearing took place some time Monday, with results unavailable as of press time.

But honestly, whatever the court decides, these are the struggles of a family that does not need the intervention of any self-serving politicians. It's one thing for you and your brother to be pro-life, but the decision to reinsert a feeding tube should be in the hands of the family—the people who knew the patient intimately, the people who are actually suffering right as we speak, who were suffering long before it became an issue for the politicians—not in the hands of a power-hungry neo-conservative who has absolutely no right to personally intervene.

The Schindler-Schiavo family brought the matter to court because they could not make a decision amongst themselves. But that's as far as it should go. They didn't need the entire political force of the country to give them a piece of its mind, nor should any activist group conduct any more misguided attempts to cram bread and water down the poor woman's throat. This is a serious, unsettling issue that the family has to deal with: to win it into your personal right.

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The communists are coming



AARON
BRAATEN

the name "Graham Lettner," which is really just a subliminal anagram for "Let German Hart." Yes, you out there have let the German have your hearts, and thereby advanced the cause of the communist conspiracy.

Names like Lettner and Hudema—and even Samuel and Brechtel, though these people are not necessarily communist—echo like footsteps down the hallways of Gramscio's "long march through the institutions." It's a strategy designed to overtake institutions by grooming the "leaders of the future" and co-opting even the elites of the enemy class like engineers, lawyers, doctors and business students. They are our unwitting communist allies.

Obviously, editors at the Gateway made it all happen through effective brainwashing. Yes, those volunteer meetings are really communist recruiting rallies. A shady source even tells me that the communist ink used to print these pages is tainted our blood with the Marxist mind-virus, and that the only way to get rid of it is to flush one's liver with distilled water and pure grain alcohol.

If the Gateway really does have an editorial policy of publishing only neo-communist tripe, then I, as a generator of said content, must be a communist. But this is news to me. I was completely unaware that I am a hammer-and-sickle-sucking Mao worshipper.

When I last visited the optometrist, the good doctor said that I had a red/green deficiency, which I guess means that I don't see shades of those colours quite the same as others. I seem to have inherited it from my grandpa, who was colour-blind. Other people, evidently, have no problem with seeing colours. They see red people. They're everywhere.

Some say they were "raptured" just before the Berlin Wall fell, whereas others claim they are simply hiding out at the Parkland Institute, biding low, waiting for the resurrection of Mao and his prophet Lenin. "They" are the communists, and it is clear to me that they have infiltrated the University in order to corrupt our precious bodily fluids.

Thanks to four brave business students, who no doubt endured persecution for their pro-capitalist view, the opaque façade of a mere "liberal" campus media bias was recently stripped away to reveal just how far the tripe-like tentacles of the international communist conspiracy have penetrated every cell of our venerable institution.

I wish I could say that I didn't see this coming, and that I had no means at my disposal to sound the anti-communism alarm. But I did, and I regret it. I saw it in the apparent Bolshevikism of Graham Lettner's presidential campaign poster, which used subliminal messages, such as reversed letters, to brainwash the masses into voting for the Gateway's Manchurian candidate.

The seeping communism should have been obvious to anyone familiar with Antonio Gramsci and his call on Marxists to fight for the revolution not in terms of physical violence, but upon the battleground of the hearts and minds of men and women. Gramsci has found the answer to his call in

Winter was bad, but at least we can complain about it



ADAM
GAULTMONT

If you were tinkering with complex surveying equipment yesterday morning, you undoubtedly noticed that the sun rose exactly in the east. This astrological phenomenon signified the equinox, ushering in what most people call spring, but what we here in Edmonton call "pothole season."

But, more significantly, it officially—if not effectively—marked the end of what was undoubtedly the worst winter in living memory. For starters, we had no NHL hockey to watch—a fact that, some experts predict, will not go unnoticed in hospital delivery rooms across the country this summer. And as much as those whiny, overpaid players needed to be knocked down a few pegs, both beer sales and guts are looking mighty thin this time of year, something for which all Canadians can be ashamed. For hockey and its accompanying gluttiery is not just a national pastime—it is an integral part of our identity, as necessary as knowing what a large double-double is or feeling smugly superior to Americans.

Here in Edmonton, our morale took another fierce blow, despite the fact that many would disagree quite fervently. For, aside from a few days of -40C weather in January, this winter was about as tame as a lame smile, and frankly, despite popular belief, we need cold weather to justify our existence in this dreary northern clime. I mean, who lives here for the nice, sunny weather, endless beach parties,

and golden-brown tans? Nobody, that's who.

Not that cold weather is a great thing—or even a remotely enjoyable thing, for that matter. Nevertheless, though, it is a fundamental part of our collective identity as Edmontonians. It's what sets us apart from those other pansies who inhabit warmer climes, like Vancouver, and fosters our sense of community and pride. For, despite our Alberta reputation as right-wing red-necks, Edmonton is actually a fairly tolerant, relatively low-crime, sometimes even liberal community, which is more than can be said of many other cities in North America.

It's as if the cold, snowy weather, abysmal driving conditions, and six months of bleakness are a type of caveat or test for those who want to in on our nice little northerly secret. "If you can make it through this crap," we seem to be suggesting to potential citizens, "then you can stay." This is not to say, of course, that we should be praying for a blizzard so as to ward off potential

immigrants. Rather, it's like a type of initiation, an entrance exam, upon the passing of which one is admitted into the club.

For there is, in fact, a lot to enjoy during the winter here, though we were robbed blind of almost all of it this year. Outdoor hockey, for example, was possible for about eight days total, even at the best-maintained rinks. And skating was, in many locations, inauspicious to say the least.

That said, though, at least one remnant of our winter identity was salvaged, as evidenced by myself: talking about the weather. Because rain or shine, snow or unholly brown shit-mix, most Albertans take comfort and find cultural acceptance in bitching and moaning about the undesirable weather that we're usually forced to endure. So let's hope, if not for our sake, then for that of the children, that next year proves to be colder than a witch's tit from October to May. Because if those damn teenagers can skateboard in December, then I say the terrorists have won.



The Gateway has been criticized in the past for having too much commentary, but at least we never put our opinion pieces on the front page. Not so for the National Post, which showed John Ivison's commentary on the conservative conference in our faces yesterday morning.

If this was simply a lapse of editorial judgment on a slow news day, perhaps they could be excused, but I'd say that lots of things happened in the world over the weekend. No, the editors of

the Post are practicing some of the worst propagandizing that Canadians have seen. The paper's trend of recent months of putting commentary on the front page is an embarrassingly obvious attempt at influencing its readers.

Please, National Post editors, now that you have an expanded four pages of editorials, keep your commentary there. But for months of this shameless editorializing, into the sack you go.

ALEXANDER WITT

The Burlap Sack is a semi-regular feature. No sack beatings are actually administered.

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Da Vinci Code causing all kinds of idiocy



RAMIM
OSTAD

As far as thought-provoking mediums go, literature is definitely my favourite. Before movies and television, literature was keeping people informed, and forcing them to think about their world. George Orwell's *1984* was an in-depth and somewhat humorous critique on the ideas of war, peace, and political control. *To Kill a Mockingbird* took a look at the double standards of racism. *Lord of the Flies* commented on the true nature of man, and how the loss of innocence can have an effect on that. However, just as in all mediums, there are cases where the readers take the ideas a bit too far.

Which brings me to Dan Brown's *The Da Vinci Code*. For those of you living under the rock of illiteracy—or who are in engineering—Brown's novel is a murder mystery arising from a conspiracy in the Catholic church to conceal both the marriage between Jesus and Mary Magdalene, and the descendants who resulted from that victim, who are alive today. The victim's granddaughter and an American symbolist decipher clues contained in Leonardo Da Vinci's paintings to uncover the truth.

Now, since the book was released, churches in Italy have nearly been

"But religious men like Bertone aren't the only irrational people in this case. I'm also getting really sick and tired of hearing about these secular conspiracy nuts who are going around Italy, trying to steal Da Vinci paintings and invading churches in order to validate the clues in Brown's novel."

raided, and the Vatican has decreed that the book should not be read. Leave it to the topic of religion to send people's insanity levels through the roof. Earlier this week, Cardinal Tarcisio Bertone—who sounds like a low-rent mob enforcer from the Gotti family rejects collection, by the way—labelled it "shameful and unfounded lies." He urged Catholics not to buy it.

Evidently he did this because, you know, "Thou shalt not read fiction novels" is right up there with murder and stealing. Here's the major problem with telling the world they shouldn't read this book: 90 per cent of those people are going to read it because of the controversy you've started. You're not really helping anything by giving it large-scale publicity. On top of that, though, Bertone seems to be forgetting the key element here: Brown's book is a fictional story based on coincidental facts that Brown is obviously playing on. If you can't read a fiction novel without feeling that your beliefs have been trampled, you should be questioning the strength of your beliefs, not the validity or antagonism of the story.

But religious men like Bertone aren't the only irrational people in this case. I'm also getting really sick

and tired of hearing about these secular conspiracy nuts who are going around Italy, trying to steal Da Vinci paintings and invading churches in order to validate the clues in Brown's novel.

It's gotten to the point where one church had to actually exhumate corpses so that their graves would not be trampled on by fanatics trying to find Jesus' illegitimate descendants. Are these people really that desperate to find corruption in the Catholic religion? That whole child-molesting thing a few years back didn't do enough for you?

Look, conspiracy theories are just that: theories. A fiction novel is fiction. A horse is a horse, of course, of course, and searching the world over for clues that don't exist is not going to change anything. This book is about as plausible as *Raiders of the Lost Ark*—which is ironic, since a film version of *The Da Vinci Code*, starring Tom Hanks, is currently in the works.

Honestly, though, before there are any more casualties caused by perversion of my favourite medium, I urge conspiracy theorists and religious prosecutors to stick to movies. That way, you can both agree to worship the works of Mel Gibson.

They might be crass, but God do I love rednecks



KIRK
ZIEMBA

For those of us who absolutely hate school right now, the upcoming summer break is supposed to give us the opportunity to relax, and maybe gain some new perspective on life, or some other clichéd bullshit like that. For most of us, though—spoiled rich brats aside—our summer will be filled up with work, and, for jobs that don't involve Ralph's new minimum wage, many of us will have to leave the sweet red-life-sheering bosom of the big city and head out to the sticks. Those who will be going back home, or you veterans of the rural-work game, will be well prepared for what's to come, but for any virgins about to make the trek this year, I have some advice: watch out, because you'll be working with a whole lotta rednecks.

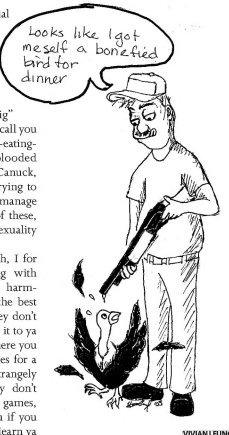
I wouldn't worry too much though, because—to use a common hicktown analogy—rednecks are like the Case tractors of the working world: fairly reliable and hard working, but without the refinement and flashiness of, say, a John Deere. Basically, rednecks are just good ol', down-home, CFCW-listening, Pili-drinking simple folk who like their skies and their steaks blue.

That said, they also like their language pretty colourful—colourful to the point where, if you spend much time around them, you're probably going to start dropping F-bombs around your own mother, then wondering why that crazy bitch says such a fucking red ass. Oh, and a word to

the wise: don't take any racial slurs you might hear to heart, because rednecks probably don't know what race or nationality you really are, and if they do, you're probably luckier, because they seem to steer clear of the "big" ones. That said, they may still call you a pole-kraut-spice-peasoup-eating-towel-wearing-jap-mixed-blooded-olive-skinned-Tankee-Kiwi-Canuck, but chances are they're just trying to help you fit in. And, if you manage to avoid getting called any of these, you'll probably have your sexuality called into question.

Word choices aside, though, I for one really do love working with rednecks. Rednecks are harmless, and probably some of the best co-workers you can have: they don't tolerate laziness, and they tell it like it is straight; you always know where you stand with them, and it makes for a pleasant, productive, and strangely safe work atmosphere. They don't play dumb passive-aggressive games, and though they will hit you if you step outta line, at least that'll learn ya real good, and you sure as hell won't do anything else that could endanger yourself or others. Plus, they often come complete with mullets: a wavin'—especially large mullets, which are awesome beyond comprehension.

And really, for all our talk of openness, acceptance, and our non-melting-pot society, Canada is a nation of people too dumb to move somewhere with less frozen tundra. Honestly, today Canadians pretty much come in two varieties: redneck or horrifyingly suburban, and I'll gladly take a redneck over a Sherwood Park boy or girl, because at least a redneck stands for something. On top of that, they also make good moose sausage,



VIVIAN LERUC

which is something even Mundare can't do, and let me tell you, there is nothing like a big hunk of moose sausage to make a long day's work much shorter.

But for all of you who will be exposed to the redneck nation this summer, there is one thing you should definitely know: keep your damned hippie-fied ideals to yourself, ya hear? Because nothing will get you a nickname that makes blatant misuses of the F-word like bringing up the advantages of gun control, you granola-munching, tree-hugging, longhaired, hemp-wearing, dope-smoking, pinko, commie, Liberal-loving hippie.

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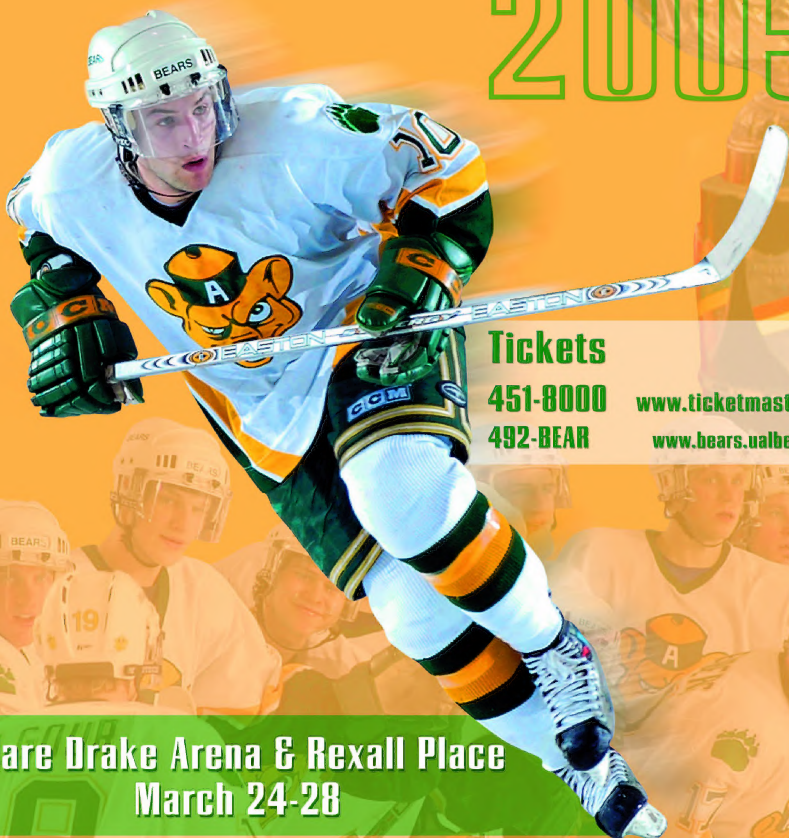
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SPORTS

sports@gatewayalberta.ca • Tuesday, 22 March, 2005

CIS to add curling in 2006

Field hockey and wrestling escape the axe as CIS gets set to expand to eleven women's and ten men's championships

JAKE TROUGHTON
Sports Editor

This weekend will mark one of the last times a Canadian University Curling Championship is held outside of the Canadian Interuniversity Sport banner.

The championship, which will be held at the University of Alberta's Saville Sports Centre beginning on Thursday, has been held for five years, but beginning in the 2006/07 season it will be replaced by an official CIS championship. CIS has announced that men's and women's curling will be added to its core sport program for the 2006-2012 cycle. While various other sports applied, no others will be added, nor will any current sports be removed.

That comes as a relief to certain sports that had been at risk of losing their CIS status, particularly women's field hockey, which dropped to only 15 teams last season including none in Québec and only two in the Atlantic.

But field hockey, as well as men's and women's wrestling, did not survive unscathed; whereas in the past CIS has been solely responsible for funding their championships, the organization has now entered into agreements to share that responsibility with their respective national sports organizations. Curling will also be funded under this "flexible service and funding model," which CIS turned to after reduced revenues—primarily due to no longer receiving rights fees for TSN broadcasts—made it difficult to continue full funding of their program.

"Recognizing the financial challenges facing CIS at the moment, CIS is providing a way in which selected national sports organizations can become funding partners and support a CIS championship if they wish," said the CIS release announcing the changes.

The U of A currently fields teams in every CIS sport, and is home to a competitive curling club that is helping to host this weekend's championship. Mike McTaggart, the assistant athletics director, said that the school ranked curling "very high" on a member survey that CIS used in deciding which sports would be included in the next cycle, and indicated there's a good chance that there will be Bears and Pandas curling teams in the future.

"I'd say it's very likely. There are various criteria that a new team would have to meet, but I think curling is likely to meet them," he said.

According to McTaggart, those criteria include that there be either a CIS or National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics championship in the sport, that there be sufficient resources and facilities to support the new team, and that the new team show that it can begin by surviving on a non-funded basis, as the Pandas rugby and Bears and Pandas tennis teams currently do.

PLAYING GAMES

A complete list of sports scheduled to be included in the 2006-2012 CIS sport cycle:

- Men's and women's basketball
- Men's and women's cross-country
- Men's and women's curling
- Women's field hockey
- Men's football
- Men's and women's hockey
- Women's rugby
- Men's and women's soccer
- Men's and women's swimming
- Men's and women's track and field
- Men's and women's volleyball
- Men's and women's wrestling

Hoops Bears stumble, go winless

CHRIS O'LEARY
Sports Writer

HALIFAX—It was a season of overcoming adversity, injuries and tremendous odds, and on Friday night in Halifax the Golden Bears basketball team's glory-run came to an unwelcome end at the hands of the St. Francis Xavier X-Men in a crushing 80-73 quarter-final loss.

The defeat eliminated the Bears from contention at the CIS Final 10 tournament and seemed to sap the energy of the team, as they lacked their usual spark on Saturday when they played Ottawa in a consolation match. They were out-hustled by a hungrier Gee-Gee team that downed them 77-68.

Third-year Bears forward Scott Gordon was plagued by foul trouble throughout the weekend, fouling out of both of the Bears' games. On Friday, despite showing nerves at the game's start, he managed to come alive and score 15 first-half points, but St. FX focused on cutting off the Bears' post entry in the second half. They limited Gordon to only five points and fouled him out over the game's final 20 minutes. Bears coach Don Horwood thought Friday's game was more physical than it should have been, but credited St. FX for playing tough.

"I thought X played well. They made good decisions, and they shot the ball pretty well," he said, but noted that he thought the officials let a lot of physical play go uncalled. "[The game] becomes like a rugby match. I think in a national championship it's got to be a little more of a basketball game than that. That's not to take anything away from X. They deserved the game, they played great. It was a good ball game. We had our chances but we missed our free throws and had too many turnovers."

St. FX was led by point guard Zach Russell, who scored 17 points on the night after leaving in the first half with a separated shoulder. He popped his shoulder back into place and returned to lead two crucial three-pointers in the second half that put the game out of Alberta's grasp.

"It kind of pops halfway out sometimes," he said of his shoulder. "I just twist my wrist and it goes back in. I've done it probably 20 times in the last two years; it's no big deal."

The Bears will now lose two of their top guards in graduating seniors Mike Melnychuk and Tyler Coston, who both left Halifax with a bitter taste in their mouths but fond memories of their years at Alberta.

"I was so sure we'd win it all this year," Melnychuk said. "To go out that way, and not win a national championship... it stings really bad."

"It was pretty emotional," Coston said of the team's post-game meeting. "I wouldn't want to lose with a different group of guys. The last couple of weeks were amazing. I have no regrets. We left it all on the floor."



ALLEY-OOPS The Bears were disappointed after losing both their games in Halifax.

FILE PHOTO: LEANNE FONG

Saturday's consolation semifinal against Ottawa proved the Bears had in fact left it on the floor Friday. With Gordon in foul trouble once again, Ottawa took advantage of a Bears team that played an uninspired second half. Phil Sudol's 17 points and five rebounds weren't enough for the Bears, as a hungrier Ottawa team out-hustled them to a nine-point victory.

Ottawa coach David De Avelro thought his team

was fortunate to have Gordon in foul trouble.

"That was a big plus for us; it definitely helped us out. You know when you're playing Alberta you're playing a well-coached team. Sudol's a bitch underneath the glass. He's hard to defend, so we tried to focus on stopping those two guys. So definitely having one of them in foul trouble was a big help for us."

The Bears finished the tournament in a tie for seventh place with the Saint Mary's Huskies.

Carleton dominates en route to third straight title

CHRIS O'LEARY
Sports Writer

HALIFAX—Don't be fooled by their simple-looking exterior—the Carleton Ravens are not what you might think. Their game play is too methodical, their offense too efficient. They might blow a 20-point lead, but they won't give up the game. That's not in the program; it's just a glitch that's yet to be worked out.

It should have been figured out sooner than this; it shouldn't have taken a 78-game winning streak and three national championships for us to see a truth so simple: the Carleton Ravens are robots. Controlled by a remote-control device that head coach Dave Smart hides in his loose-fitting blazers, the Ravens ran past the Concordia Stingers 68-48 Sunday afternoon in Halifax to claim the CIS title yet again.

Led by third-year guard Osvaldo Jeanty's eight three-pointers, the Ravens played on a level that the Stingers were simply unable to match.

Carleton hit an unbelievable 15 three-point shots in the game, including ten in the first half, to build up a lead that they would not relinquish.

"That's just the way [Jeanty] normally plays," Smart said of his veteran's performance. "He competes every time he walks on the floor; if he's playing a game of one-on-one at eleven o'clock and no one's there he's going to compete the same way, so when he gets here, it's the same pressure. Pressure's what you put on yourself and he puts so much on himself every day that it's no different when he's [in a game situation]."

The Ravens entered the Final 10 in Halifax with a bull's eye on them and were once again able to hold off all comers. After fighting off a furious St. Francis Xavier comeback Saturday night, the Ravens could do no wrong on the court in Sunday's game. They built up a double-digit lead by the end of the first half and came out more focused and prepared in the second, looking to put the game on ice as soon as possible.

Senior guard Mike Smart, who won the tournament

MVP honours for the second year in a row, thought that Saturday night's second-half collapse against St. FX helped prepare them to stay focused on putting Concordia away when they had to.

"I think after [Saturday] night we knew that we had to make sure not to let [Concordia] back into the game," he said.

While Carleton was ready for Concordia's A-game, the Stingers weren't prepared for the three-point accuracy that the Ravens came with.

"They were by far the better team today," Concordia head coach John Dore said. "I haven't seen anyone shoot like that in a long time."

The Ravens three-peat puts them in elite company in the CIS record books. Only Brandon and Victoria have won three or more consecutive titles, with Brandon winning three in a row from 1987-89 and Victoria capturing seven in a row from 1980-86.

"We're definitely up there," Mike Smart said. "I think we showed this weekend that we've been the top team in the country the last three years."

Saskatchewan savouring the underdog role

Today and Thursday, the *Gateway* previews all six participants in the University Cup. We begin today with a look at Pool B: the Moncton Aigles Bleus, Western Mustangs and Saskatchewan Huskies

ANDREW RINFREE
Sports Writer

The Saskatchewan Huskies men's hockey team believes it has a secret weapon—an ace up their sleeve, if you will. It may sound odd, but the advantage for the Huskies coming into this weekend's University Cup is that they are not favoured to win.

It's rare that a team carrying the underdog moniker would have an advantage on the ice, but for the last four years, Alberta has been seeded number one going into the tournament only to see a lower-seeded team manage to leave with a national championship banner in tow. Alberta will once again be the top seed this weekend, but Saskatchewan head coach Dave Adolph said that the Bears do not

have a distinct advantage despite ranking above the Huskies coming into the tournament.

"Everybody's going to rank as to who's the favoured team, but it's a one-game scenario and there's a lot of things that happen in those games," said Adolph. "Certainly, the last couple of years the favourite hasn't won according to the people who are picking them. I think the team that gets the break, the team that survives a difficult situation, is the successful one."

The Bears' past misfortune bodes well for the Huskies and the other teams that are seeded below Alberta, but it doesn't mean that it will be easy for the Huskies to bring a hockey championship home to Saskatoon. The Huskies and Bears have met seven times this year, including the Canada West finals

two weekends ago, which Alberta won in two straight games. Saskatchewan has only been able to win one of the seven matchups, a 5-2 win on 15 January at Clare Drake Arena.

"Anybody can beat the Bears in the final. You never know until you get there."

DAVE ADOLPH,
HUSKIES HEAD COACH

Adolph said he was disappointed with the loss to the Bears in the Canada West final, but emphasized that title is separate from the national finals. The Huskies spent this past week preparing for the University Cup and are looking at the tournament as a fresh start.

"[The national finals are] a long four or five days, and you're not sure who you're playing or who you're going to prepare for," said Adolph. "Everybody's got a chance to win when you go to a national championship and they're all one-game shots. I think for every team their goal is to win the first game and then let the chips fall as they may against whom-ever they play."

If Saskatchewan makes it to the final while the Bears fall short again, there's a good chance the Huskies will face the Manitoba Bisons, another familiar prairie rival, for the championship.



FILE PHOTO: MARCUS BENICE

HUSKIE-SIZED HOPES Fifth-seeded Saskatchewan likes its chances.

The two squads have played six times this year, with the Huskies registering a 4-1-1 edge in the season series. But while Alberta and Manitoba might be familiar foes in the final, Saskatchewan will experience uncharted territory in their round-robin games against the Moncton Aigles Bleus and Western Ontario Mustangs, the Atlantic and

Ontario champions, respectively. Both teams are seeded above the Huskies, but Adolph was certain that any team could beat any other, and was already setting his sights on the top contender.

"Anybody can beat the Bears in the final," said Adolph. "You never know until you get there."

SEEDING AND SCHEDULE

Seedings, pools and schedules for this weekend's University Cup:

Seedings:

- 1) Alberta Golden Bears
- 2) Moncton Aigles Bleus
- 3) Western Ontario Mustangs
- 4) UQTR Patriotes
- 5) Saskatchewan Huskies
- 6) Manitoba Bisons

Pool A: Alberta, UQTR and Manitoba

Pool B: Moncton, Western and Saskatchewan

Schedule

Thursday, 24 March (Clare Drake Arena)

1pm: Saskatchewan vs Moncton

7pm: Manitoba vs UQTR

Friday, March 25 (Clare Drake Arena)

1pm: Loser game 1 vs Western Ontario

7pm: Loser game 2 vs Alberta

Sunday, March 27 (Recall Place)

1pm: Winner game 1 vs Western Ontario

6pm: Winner game 2 vs Alberta

Monday, March 28 (Recall Place)

7pm: Championship final (First-place teams in Pools A and B)



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Moncton goes from worst to first in Atlantic, but still not satisfied

Les Aigles Bleus not happy just to be here after going from the bottom of the standings to AUS champions in just one season

ROSS PRUSAKOWSKI
Sports Writer

C'est la vie—it's a saying that hockey fans out at the Université de Moncton have gotten used to uttering the past few seasons. Nothing else could capture the way fate has played around with the fortunes of the Aigles Bleus, who are journeying out here to face off for the University Cup after missing the playoffs for the previous two years and finishing dead last a year ago.

However, the Atlantic University Sport (AUS) champions and second-ranked team in the nation are anything but pushovers this year, heading into their first national championship appearance since 1998/99. Moncton finished second in the AUS during the regular season and will provide some tough competition to nationals as they go looking for their fifth CIS title and their first since the 1994/95 season.

"We weren't expected to win our conference this year," said Aigles Bleus head coach Charlie Bourgeois. "We're still a very young team this year and our goal was to finish no lower than sixth and at least make the playoffs. But many of our young players came in and adapted very quickly. We had a very solid year and in the playoffs

we got great goaltending and several players stepped up. So we're pleased and proud to be representing our conference."

Even though they didn't expect to win their conference and set the bar for a successful season fairly low, Bourgeois doesn't think his team will be satisfied with only a trip out west and an AUS title.

"Obviously CIS is going to have a very, very high competition level. The advantage teams have coming from our conference is that we face tough competition every night."

CHARLIE BOURGEOIS,
MONCTON AIGLES BLEU HEAD COACH

"We've talked [since beating Acadia for the AUS title] that we shouldn't be satisfied just being here. We can't be satisfied because we still have another step left," said Bourgeois. "We're trying to get the message across to them that you shouldn't think that

you'll have another chance to win a championship in a couple years and to focus and be ready for this one."

While the Aigles Bleus may be worried about taking a trip to the nationals along the level of competition or their ability to match up to it.

"Obviously CIS is going to have a very, very high competition level. The advantage teams have coming from our conference is that we face tough competition every night. There are eight very strong programs here in Atlantic Canada and there are just no easy games," stated Bourgeois. "Every night is a battle, and that builds mental toughness and a lot of games are decided in the last period, last minute or overtime and we think that's a big advantage for us. From what I see in the other parts of the country there are very strong teams, but they may not always get the strong competition that we get here in Atlantic Canada."

Whatever the outcome of the national championships, Moncton will still return home having completely turned around the fortunes of its proud hockey program after a brief stint at the bottom of university hockey, and as the most decorated program in AUS.

Rookie-laden Western Mustangs hope to add to their Ontario championship

Team is back on track after struggling through second half of season

ROBIN COLLUM
Sports Writer

The University of Western Ontario's men's hockey team is heading into nationals with their eyes open and their sights set high. The Mustangs are Ontario champions and seeded third, but they know the competition will be tough.

"We've had a pretty good season," said Mustangs head coach Clarke Singer. "But it's a short-term tournament, each game means a lot, and any team has the opportunity to win."

The Mustangs are working hard to ensure that they're prepared to meet the best in the country this week, starting with their first game, Friday afternoon against the host of Thursday's Saskatchewan/Moncton match.

"In my experience, special teams plays a vital role in these things," said Singer. "We'll be putting extra attention on that."

"Championships are won with defense," he added. "We need to do a good job playing on our own side."

One team in particular that Singer knows they'll have to look out for if they play them are the Golden Bears, who are number one in the nation, a

spot they've held in the CIS national rankings since play began this season.

"There's no doubt that Alberta is the heavy favourite, based on the way they've played all season, and that their first game will be at Clare Drake in front of a partisan crowd," admitted Singer.

"It's going to take outstanding hockey to beat them."

Though eleven of Western's 26 players are in their first year, Singer believes that his team has the potential to play that kind of hockey.

"We have a pretty young team, but they're good guys," he said.

An overtime loss was the team's lone blemish in conference play before the winter break, when they had an 11-0-0-1 record, though Singer will be the first to acknowledge that the second part of their season didn't go as well. The Mustangs went 6-6-0-0 in the second half of the regular season.

"It was a bit up and down in the second half, to be honest," Singer said. "We played well, but it was inconsistent."

"Things turned around near the end, though. In what Singer considers to be the highlight of Western's

season so far, they swept the Lakehead Thunderbolts 5-0 and 5-2 in the last series of conference play to cement an overall conference record of 17-6-0-1.

Western later beat Lakehead in three games to clinch the Ontario University Athletics West title and secure its berth in Edmonton. From there, they beat the Université de Québec à Trois Rivières Patriotes in the OUA championships.

Singer said he and his team aren't worried about potentially playing in front of a hostile crowd in a large rink like Rexall Place, where the final games of the tournament will be held.

"If we're fortunate enough to make it to Rexall, we'll be happy to play there," he insisted. "Once the puck is dropped, we'll just play as best we can and the crowd won't factor in."

Whatever the outcome, the Mustangs are excited about coming to Edmonton.

"We're looking forward to playing for the University Cup again," Singer said. "There'll be a lot of media attention, and with no NHL, there will probably be a lot of fans there."

"We're looking forward to just getting to the ice."

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YING-YING LEE

Arts & Entertainment Writer

Their mission, which the Wet Secrets chose to accept, was to form a band, record an album, and play their one and only show in a mere seven days. Sounds like potential for disaster, but the results were a "campy, circus, space jungle" success according to the band's trombonist Donna Ball.

Several months ago, Trevor Anderson (the drummer from the Vertical Struts) along with Lyle Bell (also known as Whitley Houston) inadvertently stumbled into a seven-days-to-make-a-band challenge when Bell neglected to cancel a booking for a show.

"It's kind of like running a big marathon. While we were doing it, it was so fabulous. And then, at the end, I just kind of collapsed from exhaustion and relief."

DONNA BALL, TROMBONIST, WET SECRETS

"Lyle booked us a show so we would have to follow through with [the project]," explains Anderson. "Then I got really busy and I said that we should cancel the show. He said 'sure.' Then one week before we were supposed to play, I found out he never cancelled it."

After embracing the idea of playing anyway, the band upheld the ante by deciding to record their brand-spanking-new material as they went



HAVING A WHALE-COW OF A TIME Wet Secrets make good on their seven-day musical challenge with a CD release party this coming Thursday. PHOTO COURTESY OF FISH GROWKOWSKY

along.

"I don't think it would have worked if we had more time. I think we would have second-guessed ourselves," says Anderson.

"Most of our ideas are out there mostly because we didn't have time to think of other ones. As a result, they lead to different ideas, and then those ones lead to different ideas that we would have never got to had we stopped and rethought the first idea. We just didn't have any time to get in our own way."

"It's kind of like running a big marathon," adds Ball. "While we were doing it, it was so fabulous. And then, at the end, I kind of just col-

lapsed from exhaustion and relief."

The band, rounded off by Jeremy Nischuk on keyboards and Kim Rachel on tuba, has since polished off their album and is throwing a CD-release party this Thursday at New City.

Warning: anything is fair game for this off-the-wall ensemble when it comes to live performance.

"It's going to be filled with fun and lots of hand claps. If there's anyone out there who has a burning desire to hand-clap, this is the show for you," explains Ball.

Beyond Thursday's show, the band has plans that far exceed their initial seven-day challenge.

"We already have a notion that the second album should be a concept album set entirely in space. What better way to go down in flames than to write a concept album. We'll see," says Anderson. "I'd like to play these songs into the ground so they're good and milked. We're going to milk this whale-cow for all it's worth," he says, referencing the band's song "Half-Whale/Half-Cow."

And considering what the Wet Secrets have accomplished in so little time, who knows what the future holds for them. After all, as Anderson says, "We should burn out by our second show, in keeping with the Wet Secrets timeline."

Intergalactic Rock Stars make music for 'real human beings'

Robin Black

with Under
Victory Lounge
Tuesday, 22 March at 8pm

ALEXANDER WITT

Arts & Entertainment Writer

It's been two years since Robin Black put on a show in Edmonton, and the Kiss, Van Halen and Alice Cooper-inspired glam-rockers figures it's about time.

"It seems that the Winniepegs and the Reginas and the Edmontons are towns that have a shortage of rock 'n' roll—of real, big, chest-beating rock 'n' roll, and that's what we do," says Black over the phone from a Victoria, BC ferry terminal.

With their trademark tight leather pants, skinny shirts and funky makeup, Black and his band look like an '80s rock 'n' roll group touched up for the 21st century. They know that their style isn't mainstream anymore, but they're comfortable with who they are and they're proud of being genuine.

"We know what we love, and we would not be willing to do it any other way," says Black.

"We're not a political band, we're not a spiritual band; we're a big rock band. We're five guys who really believe that playing big, reckless, carefree rock music—you know, that comes from the heart and the balls—is a really important thing in the world."

"We believe that a big rock 'n' roll concert, big songs about how it's tough to break up with your girlfriend, or what it's like to get drunk, you

know, the simple, the real things, are important, and there's something to be said for becoming the best in the world at that."

It's been awhile, though, since Black and his band have had the chance to share those simple things with a prairie audience; the group's been busy working on their third album, the recently released *Instant Classic*, and touring Europe, where Black was amazed by receptive audiences. "The idea of the big rock show is something that's not lost on the Europeans; that's something that is a part of their culture," he says.

"We're not a political band, we're not a spiritual band; we're a big rock band. We're five guys who really believe that playing big, reckless, carefree rock music—you know, that comes from the heart and the balls—is a really important thing in the world."

ROBIN BLACK

Black goes on to bemoan the fact that the North American press is often too pseudo-intellectual to appreciate what his group does, getting excited over "some big indie overach rock group with a flute player and all wearing the same tie or something." Instead of his group's arena-style music.



But while Black has nothing nice to say about the critics, the band appreciates their fans' attitude toward their music—especially the grassroots support that the band has from their followers across the prairies.

"We sold 10 000 records in Canada. We sold them to real human beings who went out and found the kind of music they liked and bought it, who weren't force-fed it by some pseudo-intellectual bullshit writers," says Black.

And Black's satisfied with that; all he's ever wanted is to be a rock star and to entertain a new generation of music listeners by doing something that other bands did for him.

"I wanted to create stuff, I wanted to travel around with my four best friends, drinking beer for breakfast, seeing the world and rocking people's shit," he says. "We want to make the kind of records that some teenager hears and goes, 'Oh my God! I've never heard anything like that.'"

Idol to millions—of really bad musicians

DAVID BERRY



With the release of his first real album in 12 years, Devil's Playground, Billy Idol is back, evidently trying to sell records to 30-something Gen-Xers looking to finally get in on that lucrative "nostalgia" thing they complained about in the early '90s.

Then came Billy with bleached, spiked hair that would make stylists weep with joy, a painted-on sneer and a jacket with more studs than a roomful of David Berry clones; he was destined for MTV since the day he came out of his mother's womb with a rebel cry.

But the return of the man behind such hits as "White Wedding," "Mony Mony," and "Rebel Yell"—most of which are still played in some form in slinky clubs to this day—should be reminding us of much more than the simple fact that people like Kevin Smith and Janeane Garofalo are pushing 40.

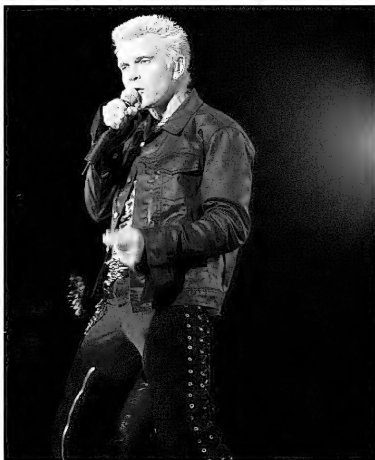
See, Billy Idol was one of, if not the,

first examples of a disgusting musical trend that has followed us to this day: manufactured pop. The idea is fairly simple: take one attractive person, add image culled from some popular trend, mix in A-list producers/songwriters, remove heart, soul, credibility and sense of common decency, mix liberally and serve lukewarm with as little substance as possible.

Yeah, we've seen it thousands of times. But, there can only be one originator, and that, my friends, is William H. Idol. Now, not to sound too much like a 14-year-old Indiecliner, but before Billy came along, punk did sort of mean something. I mean, it's never been as entirely rebellious as people claimed, but, you know, bands like the Ramones, the Clash and the Sex Pistols represented an honest, stripped-down reaction to the overblown production and masturbatory excesses of a lot of '70s rock and pop. There was meaning; it was honest.

Then came Billy with bleached, spiked hair that would make stylists weep with joy, a painted-on sneer and a jacket with more studs than a roomful of David Berry clones; he was destined for MTV since the day he came out of his mother's womb with a rebel cry. He made music that can, at best, be called hard pop, but postured like a punk, and earned the adoration of a veritable gaggle of mall punks with ripped jean jackets—the predecessors of the Avrilites.

Now, I'm not saying he was the first guy to make commercial music—obviously, that kind of thing existed before Idol ever sneered at a camera. No, Billy Idol is the forerunner to manufactured music—he is the Backstreet Boys, not Nickelback. Commercial music might be bad and populist, but at least it's



CONFORMIST YELL Billy Idol at a 2001 West Ed appearance. How Avril of him. FILE PHOTO: ALANA PENTNEY

honest—manufactured music, like Idol's, holds no such pretenses.

To be fair, Billy probably doesn't deserve all the blame—the Monkees appeared about 15 years before him, though they haven't really had the same lasting impact, and MTV essentially made it so that pop pretty much has to be manufactured to get airplay. But still, Idol stands as perhaps the most obvious example of pre-packaged music. He's the grandfather of

bad-boy bands, sexy pop-tartlets, "bling" rappers, pop punk and, ironically enough, TV shows like *Canadian Idol*. Yep, we can thank Billy for all of them, if only indirectly.

There is one small comfort that we can take in this fact, though: thanks to all the Idol-idolizing bands running around these days, clogging airwaves and record stores with their putrefying stench, Billy Idol's newest album will probably sell very poorly.



Daft Punk
Human After All
Virgin
www.daftpunk.com

GEOFF CLARKE
Arts & Entertainment Writer

The liner notes for Daft Punk's *Human After All* say the entire CD was recorded in about three weeks. The inclusion of this information comes off as apologetic, much like the disc's title. *Human After All* is a misstep for the duo, but that doesn't mean it's a total write-off.

One casualty of the brisk recording schedule is variety; their last effort, 2001's space-prog epic *Discovery* had it in spades, but *Human After All* stays pretty similar-sounding throughout. Relatively simple house beats are complemented by proggy guitars, greasy electro-funk keyboards and vocodered vocals.

Within this stripped-down framework, the duo still manages enough catchy as-groovy to make the disc worth one's while; the real key is trying to ignore the prominent shadow cast by their towering previous achievements.

Considering what's come before, *Human After All* is indeed a disappointment.

Fortunately, Daft Punk on a bad day is still quite palatable. Here's hoping they spend a little more time on the next one.

The Student Awards Office has several scholarship competitions running over the summer. Each competition has its own set of criteria and eligibility requirements as outlined in the following descriptions.

University of Alberta Undergraduate Academic Scholarship Competition

The Undergraduate Academic Scholarship Competition recognizes students for superior academic achievement (minimum GPA of 3.5) on a full normal course load taken at the University of Alberta during the September to April academic year. There are approximately 300 awards available through this competition. The awards range in value from \$500 to \$6,000 with some being Faculty specific and some open to students in any Faculty. **Students can submit their applications on-line at www.registrar.ualberta.ca/awards.**

Applicants must be returning to full-time studies in September 2005 to be eligible for these scholarships. Deadline for receipt of applications is **01 August 2005**.

University of Alberta Dr Horst A Schmidt Travel Bursary

The Dr Horst A Schmidt Travel Bursary was created to assist with the costs of participating in an international academic exchange. A number of scholarships are available ranging from \$500 to \$1,500. **Application forms are available at the Education Abroad Program, 8920 HUB.**

Applicants must be registered in an undergraduate degree program and must be part of an official University of Alberta exchange program to be eligible for this bursary. Deadline for receipt of applications in the International Centre is **01 June 2005**.

Louise McKinney Post-Secondary Scholarships

The Louise McKinney Post-Secondary Scholarship Competition was created by the Alberta Scholarship Office to recognize and reward students for their academic achievements and encourage them to continue in their undergraduate program. Approximately 250 scholarships valued at \$2,500 each are available to University of Alberta students in the top 1 to 2% of their class. **Candidates are nominated by the Student Awards Office and will be sent an application form in June.**

Applicants must be Alberta residents and plan to enroll at the University of Alberta in the second or subsequent year of a full-time program. Students who have completed a degree program and are proceeding into another undergraduate program or a professional program must apply directly to the Student Awards Office by **01 June 2005**.

Canada Millennium National In-course Excellence Awards

The Canada Millennium Scholarship Foundation created this scholarship program to recognize students for community service, academic achievement, leadership, and innovation. These awards are available to students entering their third year of undergraduate studies in September 2005 who have achieved a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.3 on 80% (minimum) of a full normal course load.

The University of Alberta can nominate up to 31 students. The awards range in value from \$4,000 to \$10,000.

Application forms are available on the Student Awards website at www.registrar.ualberta.ca/awards



Jason Lang Scholarship

The Jason Lang Scholarships were created in honor of Jason Lang, a 17 year old Alberta high school student who was killed in a school shooting. These \$1,000 scholarships are designed to reward the outstanding academic achievement of Alberta postsecondary students who are continuing into their second, third, or fourth year of studies. **Candidates are nominated by the Alberta institution where they completed their previous year of undergraduate studies. Students nominated by the University of Alberta will be notified in July.**

Applicants must be Alberta residents and have completed at least 80% of a full normal course load (i.e. at least 24 units of course weight) in their previous year of studies (September to April).

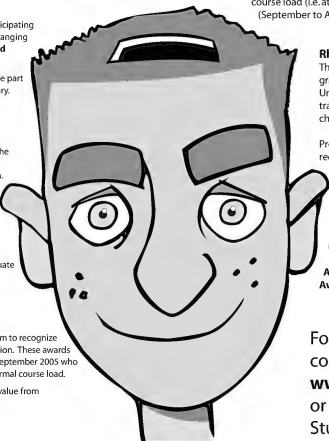
Rhodes Scholarships

The Rhodes Scholarship Competition is open to undergraduate and graduate students in any Faculty. These scholarships are tenable at the University of Oxford in England and cover fees, board and lodging and travel expenses for two years of study. Scholars may follow their own choice of study and are required to attend Oxford in October 2006.

Proven intellectual and academic attainment of a high standard is required. Candidates must also show integrity of character, sympathy for and protection of the weak, the ability to lead, the energy to use their talents to the full, and participation in sports.

Candidates must be Canadian citizens or persons domiciled in Canada; have been born between October 2, 1980, and October 1, 1986; and have received an undergraduate degree before taking up the scholarship (except medical students).

Application forms will be available in August at the Student Awards Office, 1-80 SUB.



For more information on these and other competitions please visit our website at **www.registrar.ualberta.ca/awards** or the Student Awards Office at 1-80 Students' Union Building.



Athlete
Tourist
EMI
www.athletemu.com

ADAM GAUMONT
Arts & Entertainment Writer

With roots firmly planted in modern British alt-rock, Athlete isn't afraid to dabble with such typically "uncool" sounds as piano, strings and background singers, as well as various digital, keyboard, and vocal effects. The result is a mature and inspired work.

There are a few things to pick at. Singer Joel Pott's vocals are sometimes lacking in tonality and often lacking in power, but this is to misinterpret the band's subtle and mellow style. Moreover, some tracks are a bit on the poppy side, especially the anthem-like "Modern Mafia."

Despite this, *Tourist* is nearly impossible to dislike, its deliciously melancholy feel perfect for solitary settings. In fact, the music on *Tourist* feels like the perfect soundtrack to a movie that hasn't yet been made, but which would surely incorporate emotion, rainy London streets, several recently broken relationships, a slick, intertwining plot, and bucketloads of hip and cool. So for any movie producers reading this, get crackin'—you can thank me later.



Armor for Sleep
What To Do When You Are Dead
Equal Vision Records
www.armorforsleep.com

YING-YING LEE
Arts & Entertainment Writer

For some people, listening to emo is as enjoyable as a long bus ride with a crying infant. Lyrics of broken hearts and social alienation sung by tortured-soul vocalists seem to be a



The Black Maria
Lead Us To Reason
Victory Records
www.theblackmaria.com

GARRETT HAMILTON
Arts & Entertainment Writer

What stands out in The Black Maria's debut *Lead Us To Reason* is the lack of

time a dozen. Arguably, New Jersey's Armor for Sleep falls into this category, but their newest release offers a new approach to an old emo subject: death.

What To Do When You Are Dead is a musical instruction manual to the afterlife.

The sombre and mysterious commentary on death emanates and weaves its way through each track on the album.

Yes, there are still references to relationships gone awry (such as, "I didn't care that you left and abandoned me / what hurts more is I would still die for you"), but despite the morbid motif there exists a refreshing blend of quality lyricism and catchy guitars.

So maybe eleven tracks on death is overkill (pun intended), but Armor for Sleep has created a death-themed album that doesn't make you want to kill yourself.

stands out anywhere. Not one of the album's eleven songs has the strength to punch its way into the mainstream, nor should they.

Combining wailings reminiscent of The Used's Bert McCracken with heavier guitar and a slightly darker edge makes *Lead Us To Reason* a relatively entertaining 40 minutes. But without a definite single, it will be easy to lose this new offering in the wave of similar sounding hardcore emo bands.

"The Lines We Cross," a dreary piano-driven ballad that's markedly different from the album's bleak tone, is a pleasant surprise.

Like the rest of the tracks, it isn't strong enough to register, but it gives hope for future success from this Canadian quintet.



Geoff Gibbons
Sentimental Maniac
Bulseye
www.bulseyeandcanada.com

ELIZABETH VAIL
Arts & Entertainment Writer

It's hard not to become a little sentimental while listening to Geoff Gibbons' latest CD, *Sentimental Maniac*.

And it's also fairly difficult not to listen to Gibbons' vocal inflections without being instantly reminded of a younger, somewhat rougher Elton John mixed with Bob Dylan, or not to lose interest in his mixture of guitar and piano.

Although he also shares Sir Elton's

trait of quaint, heavily metaphorical lyrics, given the folk nature of Gibbons' music his lyrical style is a great deal more appropriate and fits nicely with his mellow melodies in a way John's can't.

Gibbons manages to craft a solid, complete work of storytelling with this album, a compelling mixture of pop, country, folk and maybe even a bit of soft rock thrown in for good measure. Although the tunes, after a while, may sound rather repetitive, the quality of sound is excellent enough that you won't really mind.

Elliot Smith and the big letdown?

MISHA WARBANSKI
The Link

MONTREAL (CUP)—Like the posthumous release of *From a Basement on a Hill*, Benjamin Nugent's book *Elliot Smith and the Big Nothing* is an opportunistic endeavour as much as it pays homage to the deceased musician. On shelves a year after Smith's death, the biography based on interviews with friends and colleagues of Smith will no doubt sell to success regardless of the reviews.

I cringed when I read that the author—whose media credits include writing for *Time* and *New York*—is also a self-professed Elliot Smith fan. Fearing a hagiographic sermon, I braced myself for the worst and read on.

The book follows Smith's life starting from his youth and musical beginnings as Steven Paul Smith, living with his mother and stepfather in suburban Dallas, Texas.

Moving to Portland, Oregon, he lived with his birth father and went on to university, where he adopted the name Elliott and became the musician we recognize today.

Smith remains an enigmatic character, in spite of Nugent's extensive interviewing and reference to various articles written about the musician. The character known by his junior-high friends was not the same Smith revealed in magazine interviews. Smith's young friends seemed oblivious to problems at home, and the book's collected stories rarely agree on even the basics, like his favourite music.

Much of the detail, especially at the beginning, could have been edited out. Nugent, for example, takes great care to explain the difference between Mormonism and the Community of Christ, only to report that Smith himself was not particularly religious, though he feared hell.

However, the book picks up as the story moves beyond Texas. Smith's deeply emotional character really starts to take shape in liberal Oregon. Steeped in second-wave feminist literature, Smith became uncomfortable and perhaps preoccupied with his identity as a straight white man.

The focus of the biography is Smith and his musical projects, including his band Heatmiser with fellow musician

Neil Gust. But Nugent's book also gives a snapshot of the music scene in the '90s, from the musicians Smith toured with to the bands who were "actually making money," like Nirvana and Sonic Youth.

Nugent intersperses Smith's life story with analyses of his song lyrics. Using substance abuse as a metaphor for love, Nugent writes, Smith "can easily steer clear of the Céline Dion clichés of contemporary top-40 music." Perhaps the most controversial assertion in the book is that, according to friend and fellow musician Bill Santers, Smith's famous not-so-subtle song about heroin, "Needle in the Hay," was written before he was ever a junkie.

"Needle in the Hay" could be just as much a metaphor for the painful places in Smith's psyche as a metaphor for heroin," Nugent writes.

The enigma of Smith's life followed him into death. In October 2003, with *From a Basement on a Hill* nearing completion, he died of multiple stab wounds to the chest. While some believe it was a suicide, the autopsy report did not draw a decisive conclusion.

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ASTRONO WATCH

Keeping an eye on the sky...

Ahhh, re-winter. Bless this town and it's manic-depressive climate. And by bless, I mean rue. Because of our evil weather, observing the stars and planets is a miserable experience.

It's a shame, really, cause you can usually see four planets right now, Jupiter, Saturn, Mercury and Mars. Jupiter is high up in the southeast by 10pm; it's the brightest "star" in the sky. Saturn is very bright in the southwest during the evening, above and to the left of the constellation Orion. Mercury can be seen on the low eastern horizon just before sunset, and Mars is visible in the southeast in the early dawn sky.

There's not that much space news this week, except for some wiring problems on the shuttle Discovery. However, the launch window is still scheduled from 15 May to 3 June, and if it goes ahead, will be the first launch since the Columbia disaster.

No, silly. It's not astrology; it's astronomy. **AstronO Watch** is a weekly feature published every Tuesday. Our resident astronomer, **Kati Kovacs**, sets the stage for the cosmos, and invites you up to the Campus Observatory every Thursday evening at 8:00pm. Just take the elevator in the Physics Building up to the sixth floor, and then the stairs up to the seventh floor. Walk out onto the roof and check out the view with the University's telescopes.

HAPPY BOB KNOWS

Campus events and more...

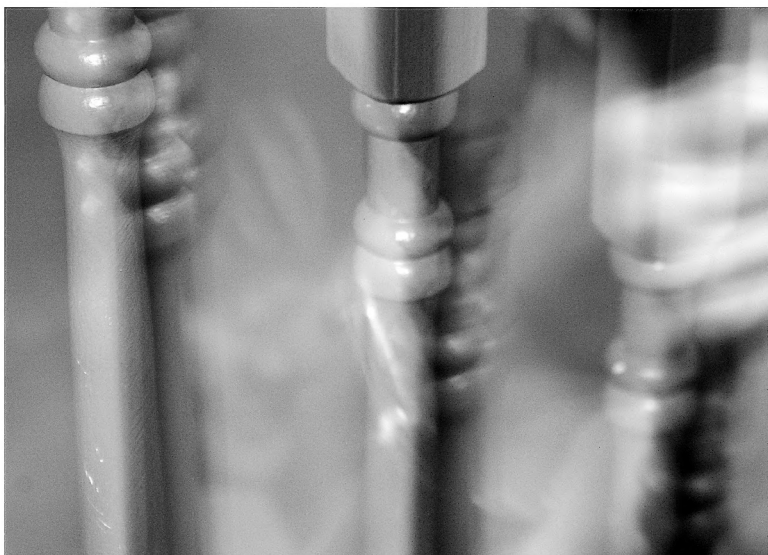
XYLST Club presents How to improve our health condition with complementary and alternative medicine on 1 April at 6pm-8pm in Education Building South Wing, room 165. The vice-president of Canadian Institute of Complementary and Alternative Medicine Research will present the event. The main contents include "Philosophies and principles of complementary and alternative medicine," "Methods and techniques for general healthcare, common disease protection, functional disorder alleviation, stress reduction, personality modification, anti-aging, body beautifying, potential ability development." For more information, please e-mail stai@ualberta.ca. For even more information, please contact Mr Tai at 492-6703.

Happy Bob Knows is a service provided for Registered Student Groups and University Departments only. Events with a monetary cost cannot run in HBK (ie, events need not be free). **Please note: the events listed are not endorsed by the Gateway Student Journalism Society.** HBK is only printed in the Tuesday editions of the Gateway each week. HBK does not publish events that are weekly, on-going, or not open to the public. The Gateway reserves the right to edit or refuse to publish any material submitted. To submit an event please go to www.gatewayualberta.ca/hbk. For more information please contact the Production Editor at productioneditor@gatewayualberta.ca or (780) 492-6661.

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Looking for summer accommodations? Grande Prairie Regional College has furnished 4-person, 3-person and bachelor units for rent from 1 May-23 August, 2005. For more information check out our webpage at www.gprc.ca/calprospectivehousing or the housing department toll free at 1-888-539-4772 and ask for housing.

GARNEAU south large 2-br in hse, hwd, gdn, 4 apt, renovated, upgrd, NS share util. \$750/500.

Wanted roommates to share 3-bedroom townhouse near Southgate. Fully furnished with hot tub. Rent \$500-\$600 per month all inclusive. Phone Mike 717-9870.

Roommate NEEDED: 4 May-Aug, CR8 DEAL: take master bdrm (ensuite & walk in) c/d in upper 1/2 of apt. \$550/mth. fhrsh. Wdr & dryr 1N apt. DW in Ktchn, dld secure garage. NS. NP. MUST CALL Bq 31 MCH 496-1917.

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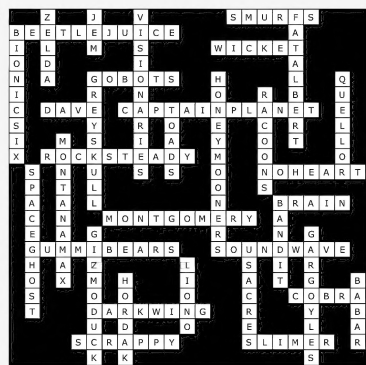
CROSSWORD

The 17 March crossword entitled **The Cartoonword** was compiled by Scott C Bourgeois.

The next crossword will be in the Thursday, 24 March edition of the Gateway.

Comments about the crossword? E-mail production@gatewayualberta.ca.

The Gateway Crossword appears every Thursday, with solutions appearing the following Tuesday. The crossword answers are verified by an independent panel of Gateway editors and volunteers, proven by a series of wordlets to be infallible.



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Earn money helping parents complete a quick 5-question survey. Work at the malls in Edmonton. You make money for each completed survey. Bonuses paid too. For more information contact Mike at 953-8895. Career and Placement Services (CAPS) is accepting applications for the positions of Career Peer Educator and Peer Educator-Promotions for the 2005/2006 academic year. Information is available at CAPS (U-100 SUH) and on the web at www.ualberta.ca/caps.

Part-time child-care workers required, leading to full-time summer employment (8 to 18 weeks) for returning students. Currently morning (7am-9:00am) and afternoon (2:30pm-6pm) shifts are available. Southside location. Phone 435-4532, fax 435-4599. e-mail gsad@telus.net.

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Spring is here! It's a great time to become a Big Brother or Big Sister. Share a few hours a week riding your bikes, walking the dog, strolling along Whyte Avenue or just hanging out. To find out how easy and fun it is to include a young person in your life, please give Big Brothers Big Sisters a call today at 424-8181. Or visit us online at www.bbbsedmonton.org.

LOST AND FOUND

REWARD! Lost: Paisley-shaped dog. Filagree

earring, with turquoise in centre. Between HC and Human Ecology, Wed, 16 March. Extreme sentimental value. Please call Karen (492-0621).

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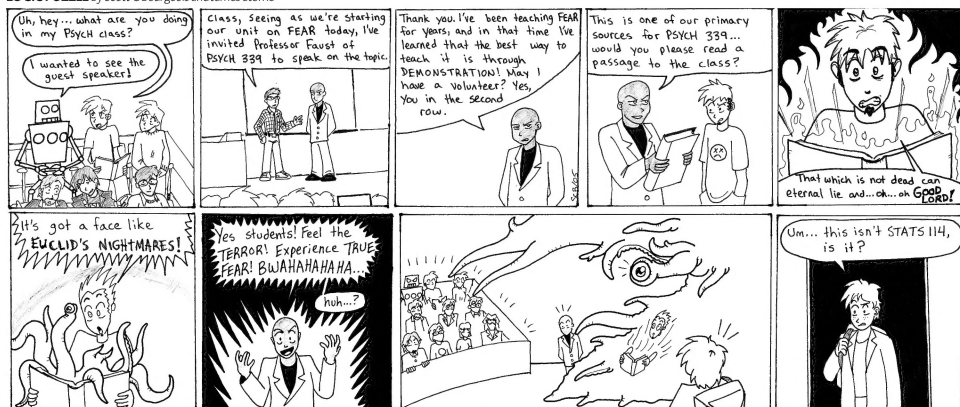
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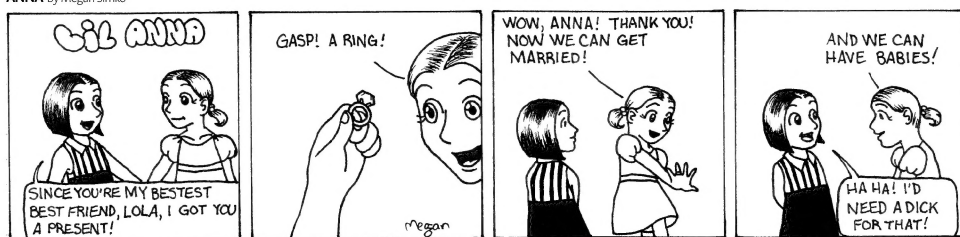


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“Why the Crimson Ribbons?”

You may have noticed the crimson ribbons tied to students' book bags or on posters around campus. They are intended to remind us of the significance of the holiday we celebrate this weekend. For generations, Easter has been a time set aside to commemorate the death and resurrection of Jesus of Nazareth. The crimson ribbons symbolize those events.

That Jesus was crucified in Jerusalem two thousand years ago is a well-attested historical fact. But why did Jesus die? Did he deserve what happened to him? Although he was executed as a condemned criminal while Pontius Pilate was the governor of Judea, the Bible claims that he was innocent of the charges brought against him. Moreover, it maintains that what happened that first Easter was not a tragic accident of history but an essential part of God's plan to rescue humanity from the evil that pervades our world.

The Bible describes the significance of the death of Jesus in a variety of ways. For instance, it uses the imagery of *sacrifice* when it says that Jesus “was sacrificed once to take away the sins of many people.” (Hebrews 9:28) Recently we were shocked and saddened to learn of the deaths of four young Mounties near Mayerthorpe. The father of one of the slain officers was reported to have said, “I so wish that I could have taken the bullet for him, but that was not to be.” Like many parents, Don Schiemann loved his son so much that, if possible, he would have given his life him. The Bible tells us that Jesus not only was willing to “take the bullet” for us, he actually did so. He sacrificed his life, so that we might live. The scarlet ribbons symbolize the blood he shed so that we might receive forgiveness for the things we have done that are wrong, since “without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness.” (Hebrews 9:22) So great was the love of Jesus that, for our sake, he willingly embraced the shame and suffering of crucifixion, one of the most horrible methods of execution human beings have ever devised.

Not only does the Bible portray the death of Jesus in terms of sacrifice, it also uses the picture of ransoming or *redemption* to describe what it accomplished. Like the word “sacrifice”, redemption expresses the idea of the costliness of self-giving love. It also speaks of winning freedom for those in bondage, as when hostages are freed from kidnappers who have kept them in captivity. In the same way, Jesus “gave himself for us, to redeem us from all wickedness and to purify for himself a people that are his very own, eager to do what is good.” (Titus 2:14) Though we would like to think of ourselves as free and autonomous, is not our behaviour often determined by impulses within us that are base or by external pressures to do things we know to be wrong? We may be caught up in a lifestyle that is immoral and unhealthy and not be able to break free from it. One of the goals of the death and resurrection of Jesus was to bring liberation, to free us from ways of thinking and acting

that are both wrong and detrimental to our own well-being. The death and resurrection of Jesus offer the hope of deliverance from the various harmful influences that hold us in their grip.

Another key word the Bible uses to express the significance of the Easter events is *reconciliation*. The apostle Paul says, “when we were God's enemies, we were reconciled to him through the death of his Son.” (Romans 5:10) The language of reconciliation implies that human beings are at odds with God and need to be brought into a harmonious relationship with him. Deep within the human heart, there is an awareness that we were created to enjoy a relationship with God that we do not have. Augustine refers to this in his *Confessions*. In the opening paragraph of this classic of spirituality, he writes, “Thou hast formed us for Thyself, and our hearts are restless till they find rest in Thee.” Well known scientist Blaise Pascal said it well, “There is a God-shaped vacuum in every heart that cannot be filled by any created thing, but only by the Creator.” Have you sensed this? Is there an emptiness in your life that only God can fill?

The students that you see wearing the crimson ribbons are doing so to indicate their identification with the events of Easter. Wearing these ribbons does not mean that they are better than those who do not believe in Jesus. It does not mean that they have got everything together and know all the answers to the big questions of life. It does mean that they have come to a point where they have recognized that they have deep spiritual needs and that Jesus gave his life on the cross in order to meet those needs. They have come into a relationship with God through what Jesus did. For them, Easter is a time to celebrate what Jesus accomplished through his death and resurrection. What does it mean to you? Why not take some time this weekend to think about the significance of what happened on that first Easter weekend two thousand years ago.

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